

LETTER TO LICENSEES

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California Board of Podiatric Medicine

SB 953 (Senator Mimi Walters)

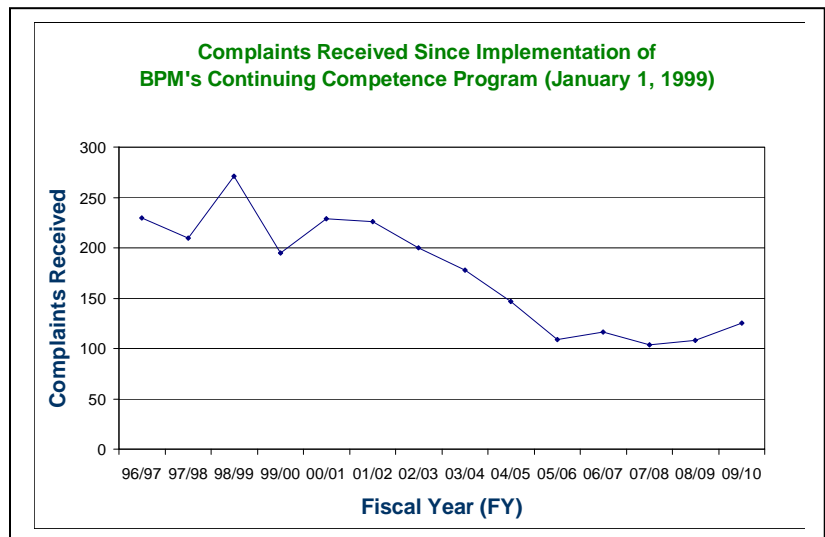
Governor Schwarzenegger signed our bill into law, removing the last exclusion from Good Samaritan coverage. When it takes effect January 1, podiatric medical doctors will be able to step into any medical emergency without regard to scope, or worry of liability. Chapter 105 of the Statutes of 2010 cleans up Article 17 of the Medical Practice Act (Business & Professions Code Sections 2395-2398), as we proposed. The bill passed without a single “No” vote on the floors or in any of the Legislative committees.

DCA Director Stiger Highlights BPM Success

At CPMA’s March 3 Day at the Legislature, DCA Director Brian Stiger called BPM a “Shining Example,” noting the Continuing Competence program and the 50% decline in consumer complaints since its inception 10 years ago. At the Department’s July 27 Training Day, he told the Members of all the health boards that it is time to stop talking and start implementing this long-recommended reform. BPM is still the only doctor-licensing board in the country to do so.

Attorney General Upholds DPM Admitting H&Ps

With Indexed Letter Opinion No. 09-0504 dated June 29, 2010, the California Attorney General has made it clear once and for all that DPMs may perform full, admitting history and physical exams in acute care hospitals and that this H&P is not limited to the defined scope of practice. Signed by Susan Duncan Lee, the Supervising Deputy Attorney General of the AG’s Opinions Unit, the State’s attorney unequivocally emphasizes that performing a full, professional H&P is the “cornerstone of good patient care” and that “failing to do so may fall below the standard of care expected of podiatrists generally.” The letter is on BPM’s website.



High Standards Continuing Competence Reducing medical errors Preventing patient harm

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